

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BONN 15982 051806Z

51

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 OIC-04 CU-04 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10

L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

USIA-15 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 DODE-00 SS-20 NSC-10 ACDA-19

OMB-01 H-03 DRC-01 /157 W
----- 036600

R 051800Z NOV 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8537

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

AMCONSUL MUNICH

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 15982

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GW

SUBJECT: CSCE: RADIO LIBERTY (RL) PROBLEMS

REF: GENEVA 5658

1. EMBOFF USED OCCASION OF NOV 5 DISCUSSION WITH FONOFF CSCE DEPT OFFICIAL TO REFER TO TOUGH SOVIET POSITION ON RL IN RECENT INFORMATION SUBCOMMITTEE AND TO INQUIRE CONCERNING FRG POSITION. IN PARTICULAR, FONOFF REP WAS QUERIED REGARDING REPORTED FRG RELUCTANCE TO SPEAK IN FAVOR OF THE RADIOS UNTIL CERTAIN UNSPECIFIED "FREQUENCY PROBLEMS" WERE RESOLVED.

2. FONOFF REP SAID HE WAS UNAWARE RPT UNAWARE OF ANY "FREQUENCY PROBLEMS" CONCERNING RFE OR RL AND STATED THERE HAD BEEN NO FRG INSTRUCTION TO AVOID COMMENTS ON RADIOS DUE TO SUCH "FREQUENCY PROBLEMS." (HE DID AC-KNOWLEDGE PRIVATE GERMAN COMMENTS CONCERNING CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BONN 15982 051806Z

ILLEGAL WHITE RUSSIAN IMMIGRE STATION ON WEST GERMAN

TERRITORY.)

3. FONOFF REP SAID THE FRG WILL OPPOSE VIGOROUSLY ANY LANGUAGE SEEKING TO SINGLE OUT RFE/RL OR SEEKING TO STIFLE FREEDOM OF COMMUNICATION. GERMAN REPS WILL STRONGLY SUPPORT AUGMENTED DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION, INCLUDING BY RADIO. BUT, SPEAKING FRANKLY, FONOFF REP SAID FRG DEL IN GENEVA WILL NOT RPT NOT SPECIFICALLY DEFEND RFE OR RL. FONOFF REP SAID THIS IS BECAUSE DEFENSE OF RFE/RL WOULD NOT BE SUFFICIENT; THERE ARE OTHER RADIO STATIONS ALSO TO CONSIDER, PARTICULARLY THE GERMAN STATION DEUTSCHE WELLE, AND ALSO VOA, BBC, ETC. MOREOVER, FRG DOES NOT WISH TO ASSOCIATE RFE/RL BROADCAST TOO CLOSELY WITH WEST GERMAN FOREIGN POLICY, AS SOVIET UNION KNOWS THAT BONN COULD ACT AGAINST THESE RADIOS IF THEY TOOK A POLICY LINE CONTRARY TO FRG POLICY.

4. IN CLOSING, FONOFF REP SAID THAT FRG WOULD STRONGLY SUPPORT ENHANCED DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION--INCLUDING BY RADIO. BUT BONN SEEKING TO REBUT SOVIET ARGUMENTS AGAINST RADIOS BY GENERALIZED ARGUMENTS RELATING TO DISSEMINATION OF RADIO INFORMATION PER SE RATHER THAN RFE/RL IN PARTICULAR.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
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Disposition Remarks:
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30 JUN 2005

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